

**From:** Nevin Lyne  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/21/01 9:54am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ Staff,

The proposed settlement in which I have included a short clip below:

"Under a settlement proposal in a series of private antitrust lawsuits announced Tuesday, Microsoft agreed to donate approximately \$500 million to help bring technology to some of the nation's most disadvantaged schools. The deal will also allow these schools to obtain a virtually unlimited supply of Microsoft software for the next five years."

How is this punishing a monopolistic company, by handing them a way to penetrate into a market they are not the strongest player in. Apple Computer is still be far the strongest player in the education market, and you are now going to make it even harder for Apple to compete as Microsoft is going to be allowed to give free Microsoft software to schools that would otherwise be buying from possible Microsoft's competitors. Microsoft should be made to give away and support competing OS's like Apple's MacOS 9 and MacOS X systems, or Intel based PCs running only Linux OS, or even Sun Solaris for Intel which is available from Sun for free. This \*Punishment\* for Microsoft in the end is more of a blessing for them as you are practically handing them long term victory in a market they have had a hard time penetrating to begin with.

Please reconsider supporting this currently poor excuse as a settlement, a punishment should be a painful thing, not something they can be proud of. Make them pay to support their competitors they have practically smashed out of existence instead of helping them complete the task of becoming the only Operating system maker on the planet with any clout.

Its agreements like this that we should all be ashamed of. Thank you for your time.

-Nevin Lyne

Small business owner (Gippy's Internet Solutions - <http://www.gippy.net/>, and working class citizen (I work during the day at my "day" job, and striving towards the American dream of owning a successful small business at night, and I try to do it all without Microsoft products as I feel as a small business owner they are NOT helping me in any way, they are harming me with their poorly written, bug filled and security deathtrap "software".)

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